

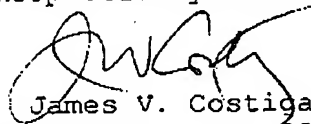
REMARKS

In response to the election requirement, the applicants elect Group I, claims 1-14 and 30-34 with the species being a pellet where the inner and outer zones comprise a polymer which is microcrystalline cellulose, with traverse, claims 1-14 and 30-34 are listed as reading on the elected species. The language of 35 U.S.C. §121 requires that the alleged inventions separate inventions in a patent application must be independent and distinct. Since this has not been alleged or shown, it is requested that this requirement be withdrawn.

The species requirement has ignored the fact that claim 1 does not require the presence of any polymer in either the inner or outer zone and only requires the presence of a biologically active agent in the inner zone. For these reasons, it is requested that the species requirement be withdrawn.

An early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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